ABSTRACT

A method of interactive image retrieval based on user-specified regions. First, a sample image is provided. Next, the system automatically divides the sample image into a plurality of regions and extracts their features. Then, the user selects one or more sample regions and defines corresponding logic operators between them; a composite query is constructed and input for image retrieval. Finally, the system searches the image database to find the images containing regions corresponding with the composite query. Compared with the conventional image retrieval methods, the present invention allows users to select sample regions and exclude undesirable regions intuitively so that more accurate image retrieval can be attained in a more straightforward way.